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Sheila O'Connor

SF World Travel Examiner



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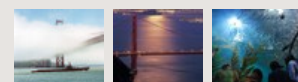
Give the perfect stocking stuffer for travelers

December 17th, 2010 12:04 am PT

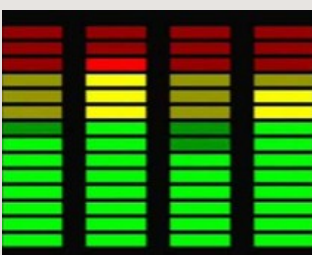


The San Francisco Waterfront: The San Francisco Waterfront app
Photo: Suzie Rodriguez, Laurie King

Slideshow: Give the perfect stocking stuffer - the Waterfront app



Video: San Francisco by Global DeeJays



San Francisco by Global DeeJays

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Give the perfect stocking stuffer for travelers

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. -- If you're looking for that special—but very inexpensive—holiday gift for someone who knows their way around an iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch, consider giving them a mobile application, especially if they will be traveling to, or already live in San Francisco. This is in fact the perfect stocking stuffer for everyone from business executives to armchair adventurers.

My top choice for [San Francisco](#) residents or San Francisco visitors is the just-released, "[San Francisco Waterfront: Bridge to Ballpark](#)." This will help both long-time residents and first-time visitors answer the question: *what can I do along the San Francisco's gorgeous waterfront?*

For 18 years, *Condé Nast Traveler* readers have voted San Francisco the nation's #1 city for world travelers to visit. Most visitors head to Fisherman's Wharf and Pier 39 and drive over the Golden Gate Bridge—and think they've seen the waterfront. But they've barely touched it!

After all, San Francisco's 10-mile waterfront is loaded with things to see and do, including many "hidden gems" that only residents know about. And this new app makes the waterfront accessible to travelers visiting the city too.

In fact, although I've been a [San Francisco](#) resident for decades, it helped me discover a few waterfront destinations I didn't know about.

- For instance, I'd been to Alcatraz Island many times, but I hadn't known about its extensive gardens—which you can tour on your own. The gardens were originally planted more than 70 years ago, and inmates helped take care of them for decades.

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29

Today's events

Beach Blanket Babylon

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Chris Isaak

Fillmore, The

Bethlehem A.D.

Bethlehem A.D.

View more events in San Francisco >

- Enjoy discounted prix-fixe meals during the city's restaurant week
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- Gay friendly Oslo, Norway, at Christmas
- Gay-friendly Copenhagen, Scandinavia, shine at Christmas

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6. Yosemite at its wintertime best during Chef's Holidays

- I also discovered that I could send gifts of fresh Dungeness Crab to my mother from the Alioto-Lazio Fish Company, a non-fancy shed on the working part of the wharf.
- And I was ecstatic to learn about the self-guided Chocoholic Tour I can take (with plenty of free samples enroute).

Armchair travelers will enjoy viewing photos of Coit Tower's stunning WPA murals, exploring historic ships at the Hyde St. Pier, or checking out the various real-time webcams monitoring the City by the Bay.

The app takes travelers from the Golden Gate Bridge to the city's state-of-the-art baseball stadium ... and beyond. Along the way are all the top attractions such as Pier 39 and Fisherman's Wharf, Alcatraz Island, and Ghirardelli Square. But there are also parks and plazas, public art installations, restaurants for all tastes and wallets, places to kick up your heels at night, numerous museums, historic ships, elegant hotels, sports venues, superb shopping, and walking/biking trails.

San Francisco Waterfront: Bridge to Balpark, was developed by two local travel writers, **Suzie Rodriguez** and **Laurie McAndish King**. These two really know the waterfront. Suzie has walked from the Golden Gate Bridge to where the baseball stadium now stands at least 100 times. "Each time I see something new and exciting," she says. "That's why this waterfront is so amazing."

Each of the app's 220+ entries has its own beautiful photo slide show, a helpful write-up, a built-in map that shows where the venue is located, information about prices, and a lot more. You can also sort entries by various categories, like "Restaurants" and "Shopping."

I asked the authors to name their fave waterfront hangouts. Laurie goes for quirky attractions like the **Wave Organ**, **Musée Mécanique**, and the **Presidio Pet Cemetery**. Suzie loves hiking on Angel Island and the coastal bluffs on the ocean side of the **Presidio**, gathering picnics at the **Ferry Building Marketplace**, and browsing in art galleries.

To give this app—or any other—as a gift, [follow these foolproof directions](#). You'll end up purchasing a special code, which the recipient of your gift can use to download the app onto an iPhone, iPad, or iPod Touch. For a stocking stuffer that's sure to be appreciated, place the code inside a hand-made card or in a small, beautifully-wrapped box. Most travel apps cost less than \$3, and include free updates for life. They're perfect for almost every world traveler—or those who already live in San Francisco—on your list.

[Learn more about San Francisco Waterfront at the Apple Store](#)

Visit San Francisco Waterfront App's [Facebook Page](#)

See the slideshow on the left for pictures of beautiful San Francisco. Then check out the music video dedicated to San Francisco by Global Deejays.

Re travel: Visitors to [San Francisco](#) can fly in to [SFO International Airport](#). Deals can be found online at

Family Travel



Check out this how-to guide for inexpensive family vacations. **Have fun and be frugal**

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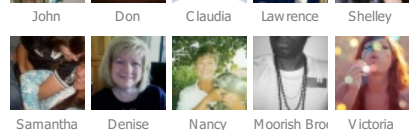
Examiner.com The case for Christmas on the slopes. What's your non-traditional holiday tradition?



Five reasons to hit the slopes on Christmas Day - Denver snowboarding | Examiner.com

exm.nr
Common Christmas morning images include wrapping-paper strewn across the living room, warm fuzzy socks matched to warm fuzzy bathrobes, and lounging. But what if, this year, it also included clear [blue skies, towering ever-](#)

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- Irvine, California, performance of Stuffed and Unstrung
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- Alabama Tourism announces top 10 events for 2011
- Breaking: Nuclear Arms Pact to go ahead with Russia
- (Photos) SF pleased: 'This is a good day' Obama signs gays in military repeal

Sheila OConnor's Preferred Links

- Traveling to Haiti after the 7.0 earthquakes history
- San Francisco What If Foundation travels to Haiti to help after earthquake
- El Al helps in Haiti earthquake San Francisco residents pleased
- Local Bay Area foundation update on their work for children in Haiti
- Earthquake aftermath in Haiti local San Francisco charity hampered photos video
- Haiti earthquake babies delivered on park bench

www.kayak.com. Those who live close enough to drive, can check out directions at [Google Maps](#).

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Susan "Backpack45" Alcorn 6 days ago

Good suggestion!

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Anonymous 6 days ago

I never thought of giving an app for a present -- brilliant idea!!

[Reply](#)



Sheila OConnor 5 days ago

It would certainly make a great stocking stuffer or even a good gift for any or your group/church holiday events. Not to mention the price is one you can afford!

[Reply](#)

Hailey 5 days ago

Love the photos, thanks

local SF charity update

- Latest news San Francisco charity donations for Haiti victims Simon Cowell to record single
- Traveling to help in the Haiti earthquake to feed the children
- Latest news San Franciscans can donate to Haiti Simon Cowell records Haiti charity single
- Haiti earthquake local SF charity gets through via Dominican Republic people desperate

Preferred city

Recently in Philadelphia

No White Christmas this year...but no problems travelling

CHEERS to 2011 & New Career Search Goals!!!

Holidays or Hell-i-daze? The Season to be Jolly has begun...

[Back to Philadelphia, PA](#) [change](#)



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hurrah 5 days ago

what a great idea to have an app for the Waterfront

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Anna Lake 5 days ago

thx for this piece Sheila

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